

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate limitations of previous claim 2 subject to some relatively minor clarifications of wording. Claim 9 has been amended to incorporate limitations of previous claim 10 subject to some relatively minor clarifications of wording. The dependencies of claims 3 and 4, and 11 and 12 have been updated and new claims 15 to 20 have been added.

Amended Claims 1 and 9

The Examiner rejected previous claims 2 and 10 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of Izawa. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In order to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, the prior art reference(s) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations (see MPEP 2142 “Establishing a Prima Facie Case of Obviousness”). It is respectfully submitted that Izawa fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations of claim 1 as amended to incorporate the features of previous claim 2, and all of the limitations of claim 9 amended to incorporate the features of previous claim 10. In particular, Izawa does not teach or suggest “wherein the processor means is iteratively arranged to calculate the prediction values used to calculate the prediction residuals by repeating b) and c).

The Examiner alleges that this feature is “well known”. However, this allegation is unsupported by evidence such that no valid rejection of previous claims 2 and 10 and hence amended claims 1 and 9, has been made out.

Dependent claims 3 to 8 and 10 to 14

Dependent claims 3 to 8 and 10 to 14 depend upon an allowable independent claim, either claim 1 or claim 9, so are allowable not least on that basis.

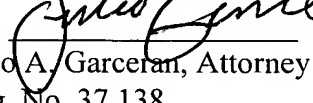
New claims 15 to 20

New claims 15 to 20 have been added in accordance with the Examiner's indication as to allowable subject matter. The new dependent claims 16, 17, 19 and 20 each depend upon an allowable independent claim 9 or 13, so are allowable not least on that basis.

In view of the above, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance. In the event of any fees inadvertently omitted or any improper payment of fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit Lucent Technologies Deposit Account No.12-2325 to correct the error now or during the pendency of this application.

If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone conversation would be helpful, please contact Julio Garceran at (908) 582-7294.

Respectfully submitted,
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